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**Subject:** language on mining assessments

While we continue to investigate the root causes of last week's release of mining waste at the Gold King Mine in Colorado, we are instructing our Regions to immediately cease any field investigation work at mines including tailings facilities. We are conducting an investigation of the factors that led to last week's incident. Based on the lessons learned from that investigation, we will determine what guidance may be necessary to avoid similar incidents at other sites. While we stand down on existing field investigations and assessments at these mining sites, we also are instructing our Regions to identify existing sites with similarities to the Gold King Mine site to identify any immediate threats and appropriate response actions.

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